

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07

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FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0929

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: OVIP, PFOR, SG, US, SCUL

SUBJECT: BRIEFING MATERIAL OF PRESIDENT SENGHOR VISIT: LEOPOLD
SEDAR SENGHOR FOUNDATION

REF: DAKAR 2476

1. EMBASSY HAS OBTAINED ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WITH REGARD
TO LEOPOLD SEDAR SENGHOR FOUNDATION WHICH MAY BE USEFUL TO DEPARTMENT
IN EVENT FOUNDATION IS RAISED AS TOPIC OF CONVERSATION BY PRESIDENT
SENGHOR OR OTHERS DURING VISIT TO UNITED STATES MAY 21-28.

2. SENGHOR FOUNDATION IS A PRIVATE INSTITUTION, ADMINISTERED BY
A 24-MEMBER COUNCIL. EIGHTEEN
VBERS ARZCFJ THROUGH
SECRET BALLOT OF THE MEMBERSHIP AND SIX OTHERS ARE APPOINTED
REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PRESIDENCY, OFFICE OF PRIME MINISTER,
AND MINISTRIES OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, CULTURE, HIGHER EDUCATION.
MEMBERSHIP IN FOUNDATION IS OPEN TO ALL SENEGALESE AND TO CORPORATE
ENTITIES.

3. OBJECT OF FOUNDATION IS TO SAFEGUARD AND ENRICH SENEGALESE
CULTURAL PATRIMONY; TO FAVOR DEVELOPMENT OF ARTS, SOCIAL SCIENCES,
VERNACULAR LANGUAGES, AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH; TO PROVIDE SCHOLARSHIPS

FOR SENEGALESE RESEARCHERS AND ARTISTS; TO ENTER IN MUTUALLY
BENEFICIAL RELATIONSHIPS WITH SIMILAR ORGANIZATIONS EXISTING
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IN OTHER COUNTRIES; TO INVESTIGATE AFRICAN ORAL TRADITION; AND

TO UNDERTAKE OTHER MEASURES IN SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT OF SENEGALESE
ART, CULTURE AND SCIENCE. WE UNDERSTAND FROM DIRECTOR OF FOUNDATION
DJIBRIL TAMSIR NIANE SUCH MEASURES WILL INCLUDE ARRANGING
SEMINARS, ARRANGING STUDY TRIPS ABROAD, AND
DIRECTLY SUBSIDIZING SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND ARTISTIC ACTIVITY.

4. AMONG

FIRST PRIORITIES OF ORGANIZATION, ACCORDING ITS DIRECTOR,
ARE TO ARRANGE GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS AND UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS
FOR DESERVING SENEGALESE AND PRACTICAL TRAINING ABROAD OF
SENEGALESE WHO ALREADY HAVE UNIVERSITY EDUCATION. PROGRAM OF
FOUNDATION HAS NOT YET BEEN FIRMLY FIXED BUT INDICATIONS ARE SOME
EARLY PROJECTS WILL BE RELATED TO NEGRO-AFRICAN LINGUISTICS
AND STUDY OF AFRICAN MEDICINAL PLANTS.

5. MR. NIANE HAS ASKED EMBASSY FOR LIST OF SIMILAR U.S. INSTITUTIONS
WHICH HE MAY CONTACT. HE HOPES TO OBTAIN FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
BUT APPRECIATES THAT CURRENT FINANCIAL SITUATION OF MANY
U.S. PHILANTHROPIC INSTITUTIONS MAY MAKE THIS DIFFICULT. HE
ALSO INTERESTED IN EXCHANGES OF RESEARCHERS AND ARTISTS AND IN
ESTABLISHING RELATIONS WITH AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES SPECIALIZING
IN AFRICAN AFFAIRS.
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